

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 1, beginning on line 5 as follows:

This invention relates to a ferrite magnetic powder including an ~~[[alkali-earth]]~~ alkaline-earth metal constituent, more specifically to a ferrite magnetic powder for bond magnet that experiences only small decrease in coercivity when molded into a bond magnet.

Please amend the paragraph on page 3, beginning on line 18 as follows:

After annealing, the ferrite magnetic powder including ~~[[alkali-earth]]~~ alkaline-earth metal constituent has a pH of 10 – 12. This makes its compatibility with binder poor and has a large adverse effect on the viscosity and fluidity of the powder-binder compound. It is therefore preferable to lower the powder pH of the annealed ferrite magnetic powder. Methods available for lowering the powder pH include that of suspending the magnetic powder in water, stirring it well and, as circumstances require, adding a mineral acid to the suspension, and that of stirring the magnetic powder and carbon dioxide gas in the presence of moisture (water).

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning on line 1 as follows:

It achieves this object by providing a ferrite magnetic powder for bond magnet, which is a ferrite magnetic powder that includes an ~~[[alkali-earth]]~~ alkaline-earth metal constituent and exhibits a decrease in coercivity of not greater than 600 Oe when a specimen thereof is subjected to a molding test consisting of:

- (1) placing in a mixer and mixing 90 parts by weight of the magnetic powder specimen, 0.4 parts by weight of silane coupling agent, 0.12 parts by weight of lubricant, and 9.48 parts by weight of nylon 6 powder,
- (2) kneading the obtained mixture at 230 °C and forming it into pellets of an average diameter of about 2 mm,
- (3) injection molding the obtained pellets at a temperature of 290 °C and molding pressure of 85 kgf/cm² under a magnetic field orientation of [[10 KgG]] 10 kOe to obtain a cylindrical molded product of 15 mm diameter and 8 mm height (whose direction of magnetic field orientation lies along the center axis of the cylinder), and
- (4) finding the difference between the coercivity of the molded product measured with a BH tracer and the coercivity of the magnetic powder specimen.

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, beginning on line 22 as follows:

The ferrite magnetic powder exhibiting a decrease in coercive force or coercivity of not greater than 600 Oe when subjected to the molding test preferably has a coercivity in the powder state of 3600 Oe or greater and the molded product obtained by the test preferably has a coercivity 3200 Oe or greater and a residual flux density of 2980 G or greater. The ferrite magnetic powder can be obtained by preparing a fine powder of ferrite magnetic powder having an average particle diameter of greater than 0.50 to 1.0 µm and a coarse powder thereof having an average particle diameter of greater than 2.50 to 5.0 µm and mixing the two powders to incorporate the fine powder at a rate of 15 – 40 wt%.

Please amend the paragraph on page 5, beginning on line 23 as follows:

The obtained mixture was formed into kneaded pellets of an average diameter of about 2 mm at 230 °C using a kneader (LaboPlus Mill biaxial batch kneader, Toyoseiki Co., Ltd.) and then injection molded at a temperature of 290 °C and molding pressure of 85 kgf/cm² under a magnetic field orientation of [[10 KgG]] 10 kOe to obtain a 15 mm diameter x 8 mm height cylindrical anisotropic bond magnet.